Fire causes costly damage at ethanol plant

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There were some tense moments Tuesday as a fire broke out at South Bend’s New Energy ethanol plant. The fire was contained to an area called a “bag house,” used to collect dust from drying corn. The fire began Tuesday morning around 2am. Firefighters managed to put out the fire in just over a half-hour.

$20,000 in damages

Fire investigators say plant officials thought they had the fire out earlier, using their own safety system. Firefighters blame spontaneous combustion for the fire rekindling. The fire caused more than $20,000 in damages to a dust-handling unit that was just installed two weeks ago.